

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

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Marie-Laure BIRG and Florence FENOLLAR

BOX: SEQUENCE

US National Stage of PCT/FR00/00754

Filed: September 20, 2001

Docket No.: 110530

For: DIAGNOSIS OF WHIPPLE'S DISEASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, and after entry of the annexes to the IPER, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the end of the application, please replace the current Sequence Listing with the attached paper and computer-readable Sequence Listing.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3-16 and 18-24 as follows:

3. (Amended) Bacterium according to claim 1, wherein said bacterium is deposited in the CNCM of the Institut Pasteur under the number I-2202.
4. (Amended) Antigen of a bacterium according to claim 1.
5. (Amended) Antigen according to claim 4, wherein said antigen is a protein selected from those with molecular weights of about 35, 50, 60, 100 and 200 kD determined in Figures 2 and 3 by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis using the Western blotting technique.
6. (Amended) Specific antibody directed against a bacterium *Tropheryma whippelii* responsible for Whipple's disease or an antigen of said bacterium.